ABSTRACT

A method for compressing digital content from a source, using a compression scheme selected from a group of available compression schemes, storing the compressed content at a central location, and retrieving the compressed content at a remote location. The method uses the steps of: a) at a remote location, prompting a user for and validating a user name and password; b) at a remote location, reading the source and prompting a user for tracks to be compressed, the user then identifying selected tracks; c) at a remote location, prompting a user for a compression scheme to be used to compress the selected tracks, the user then identifying a selected compression scheme from a group of possible compression schemes; d) at a remote location, compressing the selected tracks using the selected compression scheme; e) transmitting each selected track after compression through a communications link to a central location; f) storing each selected track in a digital content database at a central location; and   g) at a remote location, retrieving tracks from the digital content database through a communications link to the central location.

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